

A HISTORY OF PALATINE LODGE, No 97

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

of

Bro Richard Wright



Bro Richard Wright – Lecturer and Degree worker

Bro Richard Wright, a Cordwainer (shoemaker) was initiated into the lodge on 9th January 1777 and received his remaining degrees on 22nd May 1777

He received the Degree of the Harodim on 26th June 1777 and on 23rd October the Royal Arch Degree.

He proved himself a most attentive and exemplary member of the lodge and acted for many years as Lecturer and Degree-worker.

At this period of time it was a regular practice to appoint a Lecturer, as it was a rare occurrence for a Worshipful Master to be able to do more than a small portion of the work.
For each night that the Lecturer was on duty he received one shilling and six pence.

From 1800 until his death he enjoyed indifferent health and on 10th December 1801, when suffering inflammation of the eyes and unable to work, the lodge voted him £5 and instructed the Worshipful Master to financially support him until he attained complete recovery.

In 1811, owing to his growing infirmity, his salary was raised to £5 as Lecturer.

On 14th January 1819 a subscription list (Members only) was opened to purchase “a portrait of our worthy Bro Wright as a perpetual memorial of his important services”.

The portrait to be painted by the eminent Painter Mr Ramsey of Newcastle.

Bro Michael Scarth, Bro Richard Wright and Bro John Hewitt were the three masons who founded The Royal Arch Chapter of Strict Benevolence No 103 now known as No 97. It was officially attached to this lodge in 1822 by the decree of the Union of the Grand Chapters in 1821.



Lecturer's Jewel
Presented to Sea Captains' Lodge
By Bro M Scarth, Master
